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[1111] Techniques to acquire pilots over code space and/or frequency errors. In one aspect, pilot acquisition is performed using a number of substages, and some of the substages are pipelined and performed in parallel using different processing elements. A searcher initially searches over a designated code space to find peaks, and these peaks may be re-evaluated. Finger processors then attempt to acquire the candidate peaks. The searcher may be operated to search for the next set of peaks while the finger processors process the current set of peaks. In another aspect, the full range of frequency errors for the pilots is divided into a number of frequency bins. A multi-stage scheme is used to evaluate the bins, and may employ pipelining and parallel processing such that a search for peaks in the next bin is performed while acquisition of peaks found for the current bin is attempted.